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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Germany (Polish-occupied)

DATE DISTR. 21 June 1950

SUBJECT Border Guard (WOP) Battalion
25X1A in Guttstadt, East Prussia

NO. OF PAGES 3

PLACE
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INFO. [REDACTED]SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

GRADING OF SOURCE

COLLECTOR'S PRELIMINARY GRADING OF CONTENT

The following information on the Polish WOP battalion in Guttstadt (Dobre Miasto-R 54/E 68) [REDACTED] was obtained: 25X1A

1. Superior headquarters:

Allenstein (Olsztyn-R 54/E 66) WOP brigade, commanded by Colonel Walerjan Jakutowicz. The brigade, which consisted of several WOP battalions and three cavalry troops, controlled the border in the Polish part of East Prussia.

2. Cover No.: 5833

3. Quarters:

A large school building and some adjoining buildings, which were being improved.

4. Officers:

CO: Major Josef Zakrzewski, about 43 years old, a border guard officer before 1933, anti-Communist, an orthodox Roman-Catholic.

Political Officer: Senior Lieutenant Marjan Laran, about 30 years old, delivers political speeches without much enthusiasm.

Medical Officer: Captain Dr. Edward Rozniak, about 35 years old, a former civilian doctor who had been drafted for service with border guard units.

The names of three or four other officers at the headquarters were not known to source.

5. Organization, equipment and strength:

a. Organization:

(1) Battalion headquarters with a signal and an engineer platoon which, including some labor details, had a

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ration strength of 180 to 200 men (reliable figure as deserter was cook for the unit).

(2) 1st through 3rd Rifle Co.

CO 2d Co: Senior Lieutenant Wasiak, about 43 years old, in 1939 a sergeant with the former Polish Army.

(3) Hv Machine Gun Co.

CO: A chief warrant officer of the former Imperial Austrian Army, more than 50 years old.

b. Organization of a rifle company:

Company headquarters: CO, two clerks, one sergeant major, one quartermaster sergeant, one ordnance sergeant. Three platoons of three rifle squads each. Each squad was equipped with German rifles, Soviet sub-machine guns and one air-cooled Polish light machine gun on bipod mount with 20-round magazines.

c. The battalion was a training unit from which EM who had finished the basic training were transferred to the various border guard battalions.

6. Armament and ammunition:

German rifles, Soviet submachine guns, Polish light machine guns and water-cooled Soviet heavy machine guns. The battalion had shipped nine heavy rapid-fire machine guns to Warsaw in April 1949. The battalion was not adequately equipped with rifles. Headquarters personnel had to give up their rifles if new recruits arrived. Ammunition was plentiful.

7. Vehicles:

With the exception of the CO's passenger car, the battalion had only horse-drawn vehicles.

8. Clothing:

Only old uniforms. All the soldiers wore top boots; no spare boots were available.

9. Food supply:

WOP rations were superior to those of the army. Twenty grams of bacon and extra bread were issued daily in excess of the standard ration quota.

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10. Training:

Recruits underwent **three-months'** basic training and then special border guard training, e.g. as dog handler or special arms training.

11. Personnel:

Members of the 1926 and 1927 classes. The 1926 class was due for discharge in the **fall** of 1949 when contingents of the 1928 class were to be inducted. Only Poles were allowed to serve with the border guard. No minorities such as Ukrainians, Ethnic Germans, Jews, etc. were accepted. Border guard personnel came from all parts of Poland.

12. General data on the WOP:

WOP units were gradually activated in 1946 and gradually replaced border guard units of the Polish Army. At first subordinate to the Polish Ministry of Defense, the WOP units came under the control of the Polish Security Police (UBP) on 1 January 1949.

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Comment:

- (1) A Polish Border Guard (WOP) brigade, possibly with the numerical designation 7, is stationed in the Allenstein-Rastenburg (A 55/A 29) area and controls the demarcation line from the Bay of Danzig as far as a point north of **Suwalki** (S 55/L 29).
- (2) Lieutenant Colonel Jakutowicz was identified at the Warsaw WOP Headquarters in October 1949. The other officers are reported for the first time.

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